

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FPC-01 H-01 INR-07
INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06
OES-06 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 PA-01
PRS-01 /102 W

-----290805Z 036677 /11

R 282223Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3292
INFO AMCONSUL MONTREAL
ALL OTHER AMCONSULS CANADA POUCH

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 03226

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: ENRG, CA
SUBJECT: ENERGY-GOC APPOINTS PIPELINE COORDINATOR

1. PRIME MINISTER TRUDEAU ANNOUNCED AT HIS AFTERNOON PRESS CONFERENCE APRIL 28 APPOINTMENT OF BASIL ROBINSON, PRESENTLY UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, AS FEDERAL PIPELINE COMMISSIONER WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR COORDINATING ADVICE TO GOVERNMENT ON CONSTRUCTION OF NORTHERN GAS PIPELINE.
 2. ROBINSON PHONED EMBASSY EARLIER IN DAY TO GIVE US ADVANCE NOTICE OF THIS ANNOUNCEMENT. HE SAID THAT IN HIS NEW POSITION HE WILL BE RESPONSIBLE TO A SPECIAL CABINET-LEVEL COMMITTEE WHICH WILL BE ESTABLISHED UNDER CHAIRMANSHIP OF PM TRUDEAU AND WILL INCLUDE AS MEMBERS MINISTERS OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, ENERGY, MINES AND RESOURCES, INDIAN AND NORTHERN AFFAIRS, FINANCE, ENVIRONMENT, AND INDUSTRY TRADE AND COMMERCE. ROBINSON SAID TRUDEAU WAS ASSUMING NOMINAL CHAIRMANSHIP OF NEW CABINET COMMITTEE BECAUSE OF NEED TO CUT ACROSS LINES OF DEPARTMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY
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AND AVOID ANY SUGGESTION THAT COMMITTEE WOULD BE DOMINATED BY ONE OR ANOTHER SPECIAL INTEREST. IN PRACTICE, ROBINSON DOUBTS PM WILL CHAIR MANY OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS. ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMITTEE HAS NOT BEEN ANNOUNCED PUBLICLY.

3. ROBINSON SAID HE WILL HAVE A VERY SMALL STAFF ("WE DON'T WANT TO DUPLICATE THE WORK OF THE REGULAR DEPART-

MENTS.") AND WILL CHAIR A COMMITTEE, COMPOSED OF THE DEPUTY
MINISTERS OF THE INTERESTED DEPARTMENTS, WHICH WILL CO-
ORDINATE MATERIAL FOR PRESENTATION TO MINISTERS. HE
EXPECTS TO START UP HIS NEW OFFICE RIGHT AWAY BUT SAID
IT WILL BE MID-MAY BEFORE HE WILL HAVE PHASED OUT OF
EXTAFF AND BE WORKING FULL-TIME ON PIPELINE MATTERS.

3. ROBINSON SAID THERE WAS NO DECISION YET ON HIS
SUCCESSOR AT EXTAFF. ENDERS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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TAGS: ENRG, CA, (ROBINSON, BASIL)
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